



## Mr. John C. Tietgens

July 5, 1923 - February 20, 2022

Mr. John Christian Tietgens, 98, of Clarksburg, a longtime local businessman, died Sunday evening, February 20, 2022 at Southwestern Vermont Medical Center in Bennington. He was born in North Adams on July 5, 1923, a son of the late Peter N. and Catherine J. (Vareski) Tietgens. He attended North Adams schools, graduating from Drury High School with the Class of 1941. Mr. Tietgens was a Veteran of World War II, serving with the US Army in both the European and Pacific Theaters, from 1943 until his Honorable Discharge as a Sergeant in 1946. He married his late wife, the former Ellen G. Shields, on April 22, 1944, and they were married just over 73 years when she passed away on June 15, 2017. That same year, they were recognized as the Massachusetts couple married the longest by Marriage Encounters Worldwide. Upon his return from military service, he went to work as a mechanic with his father at the former Pete's Tire Service in North Adams. He then founded City Taxi in North Adams, and, in 1953 founded JT Bus Lines, starting with only two school buses, until ceasing operations in 2008. He also owned and operated Twin Pines Farm, where he raised championship Shetland ponies, and Hudson Brook Stables, where he raised and trained thoroughbred racehorses. He was a leading owner and trainer at Green Mountain Park in Pownal, VT, which he later purchased. He was a judge at many horse shows and was a member of the National Horseshow Judge's Association and the Horsemen Benevolent Protective Association and member of Thoroughbred Racing Protective Bureau. He was a charter

member of the School Transportation Association of MA; a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 996, North Adams; American Legion Post 90, Pownal, VT. An avid sportsman, he was a charter member of the Stamford Sportsman's Club, and enjoyed hunting at many locations across North America, including the Yukon, Alaska, and Newfoundland. He and his late wife enjoyed wintering in Jamaica, and later, in Florida, where he had homes in Naples, and later, in Cape Coral. John enjoyed time with his children and their many friends. He taught countless young people how to sit a horse, cast a line, drive a boat, water and snow ski, how to handle a firearm and hunting sportsmanship and reasonability. Everyone was welcomed into John and Ellen's home for coffee or cocktails. He was a communicant of St. John Bosco Church in Stamford, where he served as chairman of the Parish Council, and earlier, had been a communicant of the former St. Francis of Assisi Church, North Adams. He is survived by a son, John C. Tietgens, Jr. and his wife, Heather-Lynn, of Stamford, VT; three daughters, Joan Calvi and her husband, Bruce, of Clarksburg; and Jane Sullivan and Jean Kurpiel and her husband, Michael, both of Stamford, VT; eleven grandchildren, including Bernard and Jeffrey Calvi; Jennifer Belisle, Justin and Jeremy Sullivan, Christa Marsh, Michael Kurpiel, Jr., Jessica Langenback, John Tietgens III, and Jacob and Jillian Tietgens; sixteen great grandchildren; a sister-in-law, Anne Tietgens of Arizona; his caregiver and close friend, Stephen Chipchase; as well as several nieces nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews and cousins. He was predeceased by his brother, Peter Tietgens, in 2021. The family expresses appreciation for his compassionate care at Southern Vermont Medical Center, and Kindred at Home. The funeral will be held on Saturday, Feb. 26th, at 10:00 AM from the PACIOREK FUNERAL HOME, 13 Hoosac St. Adams, followed by a Liturgy of Christian Burial at 11:00 AM in St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, Adams. Burial with military honors will take place in the spring in Clarksburg Cemetery. Calling hours are Friday from 4 to 7 PM at the funeral home. It is requested that face masks be worn in the funeral home and in the church. Memorial donations may be made to the Clarksburg Volunteer Fire

Company, 181 Cross Rd. Clarksburg, MA 01247. To leave a message of  
condolence, please go online to [www.paciorekfuneral.com](http://www.paciorekfuneral.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Clarksburg Cemetery

Henderson Road  
Clarksburg, MA 01247

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **25**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Paciorek Funeral Home  
13 Hoosac Street  
Adams, MA 01220  
(413) 743-0815  
jspaciorek@gmail.com  
<https://www.paciorekfuneral.com/>

## Liturgy of Christian Burial

FEB **26**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Stanislaus Kostka Church  
Hoosac Street  
Adams, MA 01220

# Tribute Wall

SL

“ I hate to think how much gasoline I burned up waterskiing behind the boat 'Mr. Tietgens' had when he had the camp in Cheshire, MA. Some of my fondest memories of childhood were spent in his house, in his pool, in his backyard. And don't get me started on his epic pig roasts. John C. Tietgens you will be missed and never forgotten for your infectious can-do spirit and warmth shared so unselfishly. The Lydon family wishes all of the Tietgens well and hope you find strength and solace in our prayers for your Mom and Dad.

Sean F. Lydon  
Cheshire, MA

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Sean F. Lydon - February 25, 2022 at 12:48 AM

JK

Sean, thank you for sharing your memories. Dad never did care how much gas we burned, as long as we syphoned it out of his truck ourselves. Hearing so many wonderful stories this past week has been a huge help. God bless you and your family.

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Jean E Kurpiel - February 27, 2022 at 08:58 AM

JS

“ We never met anyone else that had such a positive outlook on our young lives. An amazing man. We shared many wonderful, caring times together. Our love and best wishes to all the family.  
Jerry and David Sullivan

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Jerry Sullivan - February 24, 2022 at 05:42 PM

JK

Jerry and David, thank you for reaching out during this sad time.

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Jean E Kurpiel - February 27, 2022 at 09:00 AM

TM

“ *Sending sincere condolences to the entire Tietgens family. May he rest in peace.*

Tom Molloy - February 24, 2022 at 12:38 PM

JK

*Tom, thank you for thinking of us. we have gone through so many pictures from the track this past week and you are in several. Brought back good memories.*

Jean E Kurpiel - February 27, 2022 at 09:03 AM

DY

“ *Teitgens family, So sorry to hear of your Dad's/Grampa's passing and sending our prayers. May your many memories comfort you.*  
*Dave & Connie Yorke*

Dave & Connie Yorke - February 24, 2022 at 08:59 AM

JK

*Dave and Connie, thank you very much. we are blessed to have had him for such a long time. God bless!*

Jean E Kurpiel - February 27, 2022 at 09:05 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. John C. Tietgens.*



February 24, 2022 at 07:58 AM

JE

“ We lower our flags to this honorable citizen of the Berkshire community he loved.  
I rode my first horse at his home as a kid and I can still see the look on Joan's face when he threw me off. A wonderful family that always made you feel at home and we send our condolences to all.  
Jack Esposito and family.  
Rye, NH

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**Jack Esposito** - February 23, 2022 at 02:40 PM

JK

Jack, thank you for sharing. I am sure that Dad told you to get up and get right back on! God bless.

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**Jean E Kurpiel** - February 27, 2022 at 09:08 AM